

CEUBC Guild Aids Church Social Life

One of the pioneer churches of Torrance was the Central Evangelical United Brethren started in October 1916 under the leadership of Rev. J. P. Ash. The group this minister gathered about him for religious observance immediately began plans to build their own edifice for worship.

Land was donated by the Dominguez Water Company and funds were raised so that a church building could be completed and dedicated by 1918. The parsonage was completed in 1919.

Ladies of the church met in February, 1918, at the home of Mrs. Stieglitz to organize a guild and elected Mrs. Dick as first president. Ever since the Guild has helped the minister with his calls, aided in the church social life, and assumed part of the financial responsibility.

In 1924 members of the church and townspeople discussed a place for social gatherings and made plans to build the Guild Hall. Much of the labor on the

Fuchsia Society Desires To Beautify Home, Community

Realizing the need of knowhow in landscaping and gardening if a fast-growing area is to be a beautiful and desirable place in which to live, some 35 women met at the home of Mrs. J. R. Allison in North Torrance last June 3 to form an all-around garden club.

Loren Paulsohn, president of the California Fuchsia Society, talked to the women that day and through his talk, the vague idea of "garden club" evolved into the North Torrance branch of the State Fuchsia Society.

First meeting of the group as such was held July 14 at McMaster Hall, with State President Paulsohn presenting the charter to newly-elected President Mrs. Allison, making North Torrance the 24th chapter in the state. Receiving plaudits with Mrs. Allison were other officers, Mrs. J. E. Eaton, secretary; C. E. DeCamp, treasurer; Mrs. Basil Ball, delegate to the

hall was donated by the men of the church. The Rev. Walter Stanton is the present pastor. Mrs. Howard McDonald heads the Ladies

state convention; and Mrs. Eliza Stone, alternate delegate. Gardeners from all over Torrance and the surrounding area are members of the club, gathering the second Tuesday of the month at McMaster Hall to glean hints and help for their own home gardens from experts. In addition to fuchsias, other shade plants, roses, annuals, and almost every type of flower are discussed by recognized experts in each field.

The local branch joined others throughout the state at a picnic in Torrance Park Sunday, Sept. 20, and next year plans to participate in the annual State Fuchsia Show at Hollywood Park. Jim Fairlo, first national president and hybridizer of note, says the fuchsia growers are the friendliest people in the world. He draws his conclusions from hearing many members of the Fuchsia Society chat about gardening during the refreshment period following meetings.

Aim of the local society, according to Mrs. Allison, is to bring the best garden consultants in as speakers and to draw into the group more residents who wish to learn to beautify their home grounds.

GOLD STAR MOMS AID SERVICEMEN

Torrance Memorial Chapter of the American Gold Star Mothers was organized in April, 1947, and includes residents of Gardena, Redondo, Lomita and Torrance in its membership. Mrs. Opal Andrews, president, also belongs to the Disabled Veterans Association. She lost a son who served in the Army Air Corps during the last war, is the mother of a Marine Air Corps man, now retired from active duty, who fought at Okinawa and Iwo Jima, and has just said farewell to her youngest son, who has gone overseas on Navy duty.

This chapter works especially among the mental patients at the Brentwood Hospital in Sawtelle, and takes refreshments and cigarettes to the men. Musicians among the mental patients have an orchestra and aid in the entertainment. Nurses and medical men report an improvement in these mental cases after the visits of the American Gold Star Mothers groups.

Mrs. Gertrude Dobson, hospital chairman, is assisted in visitations by Regina Cunningham and Mrs. Helen Smith of Torrance; Mrs. Edith Erbe, Mrs. Gertrude Dobson, and Mrs. Opal Andrews of Gardena.

The group welcomes more donations from business men and others to aid in this work and to devise new ways of raising money.



LAYING CORNERSTONE . . . Leaders of the WALTERIA Community Methodist Church laid the cornerstone of the new church in WALTERIA earlier this month. Left to right are J. A. Feasley, church lay leader; Rev. Gene Cohen, pastor, and Jack Tinkle, trustee. The church was dedicated during the spring and summer months. The congregation plans to use it for the first time today.

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Aims of Beta Sigma Phi Service, Social, Cultural

Service, social, and cultural are the aims of Beta Sigma Phi, international business sorority, which was organized here in Nov. 1948 under the leadership of Mrs. Robert Tolson.

Under the service program, the local club has aided the Sister Kenny Foundation and Red Cross and is making tentative plans to hold a Christmas party for children at Harbor General Hospital this year.

Social aspects of club work include a fashion show held last May, member teas, and costume parties, while the cultural side of life is emphasized each of the two monthly meetings, held the first and third Wednesdays in members' homes.

At these meetings, one of the club members or a guest speaker points out new ways to beauty, reviews important literature, tells a travel tale, discusses personality, art, home decoration, or any one of a number of things which broaden every day living.

From this three-point program has evolved the Beta Sigma Phi motto, life, learning, and friendship.

Membership in the sorority is by invitation. Prospective pledges are invited, during rushing

season each spring and fall, to an open meeting, where they learn the aims and purposes of the club. After one or more socials, an informal party and formal preferential tea held in order that the girls may become better acquainted with the members, invitations to the sorority initiations are mailed.

This initiation is a pledge ritual only, for a new girl is not officially a member until she completes a pledge study of six months, during which time she learns all about the sorority rules, rituals, and purposes.

Beta Sigma Phi has members throughout the United States, as well as in England, Scotland, Hawaii, and Canada. Included in the honorary membership list are Judge Georgia Bullock of the Superior Court in the Los Angeles Department of California Adoptions; Mrs. Grace Coolidge, wife of the late President Coolidge; Sister Elizabeth Kenny, and Anne Fisher, California novelist who contributes articles to "The Torch," Beta Sigma Phi magazine.

Mrs. Willis Brooks is an honorary member of the local chapter, which is elected this year by Mrs. Harold Roberts, president. Other officers are Miss Oleta Hale, vice-president; Mrs. Gene Stirling, reading secretary; Mrs. William Campbell, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Robert Stewart, treasurer.

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